

JENNY ORCHARD

Expressing the connected nature of all life and matter is at the core of Jenny Orchard's art practice. The paintings, collages and ceramics in her recent work form part of a narrative about a fictitious and parallel world in a state of change. Her work references the places in which she has lived and lives as well as her fascination with European tradition, African and Aboriginal mythologies, Australian contemporary culture and the environment. Jenny's ceramic 'creatures' and vases are formed using earthenware clay and an array of vibrantly coloured glazes, each one possessing a unique personality and exhibiting a complete defiance of convention. This intermix of elements combined with the decorative tradition of clay expresses her interest in the interconnectedness of life, culture and form. The gathered, painted and re-arranged images that form her works on paper are imbued with a quality of surprise and tempt the viewer's imagination and poetic responses. As Jenny explains, "Each image or ceramic forms a story on its own, but the narrative running through all of them is that of accelerated change, chance encounters and the suggestion of parallel realities." They rejuvenate within us a child-like wonder of life on the planet, and conversely invite us to contemplate the darker notions of our meddling with it.

Born in Turkey, Jenny grew up in Zimbabwe and emigrated to Australia in 1976. She studied at the College of Fine Arts in Sydney, receiving her Bachelor of Arts in 1980. Jenny has exhibited widely in Australia and has participated in shows in Japan, Germany, Italy and the USA. She has won major prizes such as the prestigious Sidney Myer Fund Australian Ceramic Award in 2017 and, in 2019-2020, the Wollongong Art Gallery held a major exhibition of her work over the last decade. Her work has been extensively acquired and is represented, amongst others, in the collections of the National Gallery of Australia, Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, Sydney, Queensland Art Gallery, Art Gallery of South Australia and the National Gallery of Victoria.

BIOGRAPHY

- 1977-79 Bachelor of Arts, College of Fine Art, University of NSW, Sydney
1982-98 Various teaching positions at University of NSW; University of Sydney; National Art School, Sydney; Randwick CAE, Sydney
2004 Artist in residence, Sydney College of the Arts
2006 Masters degree, College of Fine Art, University of NSW, Sydney
2018 Artist in residence, Australian National University, Canberra

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2021 "Bush of ghosts", Despard Gallery, Hobart
2020 "Conversations with Weeds", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
2019-20 "Creatures of Consequence", Wollongong Art Gallery, NSW
2016 "Living in the clouds", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
2015 "Life in the Suburbs", Frances Keevil Gallery, Sydney
2014 "My Journey Through The Hidden Suburbs of Reconstruction", Maunsell Wickes, Sydney
2013 "See with your heart", Despard Gallery, Hobart
"Delinquent children", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
2012 "Progress Report", Frances Keevil Gallery, Sydney
2011 "Zookinii", Perc Tucker Gallery, Townsville
2010 "Dining with cannibals", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
"Weeping weeds", Despard Gallery, Hobart
2008 "Creatures of consequence", Coffs Harbour Regional Gallery
2007 "Creatures of consequence", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
"Misfits in Metempsychosis", Maunsell Wickes, Sydney
"Zookiniis from Metempsychosis", Sydney College of the Arts, University of Sydney
2005 "Plant People - Soul Flowers", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
2004 "Metempsychosis", The Foyer Gallery, Sydney College of the Arts
"Plant People, Soul Flowers", Sir Herman Black Gallery, University of Sydney
2002 "Odd couples - transitional creatures", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
2001 "Australian Dreamscapes", Bartley Drey Gallery, London
2000 "Imps, Goddesses, Tricksters and the Spirit of the Tree", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
1999 Customs House, Sydney
1998 Beaver Galleries, Canberra
"Flower-fish", Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne
1988 Macquarie Galleries, Sydney

- 1987 Macquarie Galleries, Sydney
1986 Macquarie Galleries, Sydney
1985 Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne
1981 Blackfriars Gallery, Sydney

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 "Small works 2023", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
2019 "Fusion – contemporary Australian ceramics", Despard Gallery, Hobart
"All tomorrow's stories", Mayspace, Sydney
Dobell Drawing Prize, National Art School, Sydney
2018 "Jenny Orchard and Dale Richards", Despard Gallery, Hobart
2017 "Small works 2017", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
Sydney Contemporary, Carriageworks, Sydney (Despard Gallery)
University of Queensland's National Self Portrait Prize 2017, UQ Art Museum, Brisbane
Sidney Myer Fund Australian Ceramic Award, Shepparton Art Museum, Vic
2015 Ceramics 2015, Maunsell Wickes, Sydney
"Uncertain Paradise" Gallery Imazoo, Seoul, Korea
"Art from Australia", Gail Art Museum, Gyeonggi-do, Korea
2013 "Small works", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
2011 "Rusty vessel stories", Maunsell Wickes at Barry Stern, Sydney
"Sculpture by the Sea", Bondi, Sydney
2010 "Sculpture by the Sea", Bondi, Sydney
"The sculpture show", Brenda May Gallery, Sydney
"The inedible Zookinii", Cudgegong Gallery, NSW
2009 "Replacements: other drawing, reveries of the everyday", Tin Sheds Gallery, University of Sydney
"Animal farm", Brenda May Gallery, Sydney
"Sculpture by the Sea", Bondi, Sydney
"International Ceramic Conference", Maunsell Wickes Gallery, Sydney
2008 "Arafura Exchange, Trajectory of memories - tradition and modernity in ceramics, Australian and Indonesian artists",
Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin
2006 SOFA, Chicago, USA
2005 "Trace" College of Fine Arts Exhibition/Performance space, University of NSW, Sydney
"Chilli" Cudgegong Gallery, Gulgong, NSW
2004 "The Hollow and the Whole; Contemporary Ceramics", Delmar Gallery, Sydney
"Singular Visions", Cowra Art Gallery, Cowra, NSW
2003 The Christmas Show, The Ceramic Gallery, Paddington, Sydney
Ceramics, The Australian and New Zealand Context. Campbelltown City Bicentennial Art Gallery
2001 International Ceramics, Rufford Craft Center, Nottingham, UK
"Australian Dreamscapes", Bartley Drey Gallery, London
2000 "Celebration", Manly Art Gallery, Sydney
Australian Ceramics, Marianne Heller, Heidelberg, Germany
1999 SOFA, Chicago, USA (Despard Gallery)
"Teawares: towards 2000", Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne
1998 SOFA, Chicago, USA (Despard Gallery)
1997 Barry Stern Galleries, Sydney
Quadrivium Gallery, Sydney
Kutani International Invitation, Kutani, Japan
SOFA, Chicago, USA (Despard Gallery)
1996 SOFA, Chicago, USA (Despard Gallery)
"Free the Beast", Despard Gallery, Hobart
1995 SOFA, Miami, USA
Museo Internazionale delle Ceramiche in Faenza, Italy
"Delinquent Angel", Australian Historical, Aboriginal and Contemporary Ceramics
1994 CINAFA, Chicago, USA (Despard Gallery)
1993 CINAFA, Chicago, USA (Despard Gallery)
"The Family Show", Despard Gallery, Hobart
"Modern Hybrids", Despard Gallery, Hobart

- 1992 Gallery L of Hamburg, Germany
1991-92 Macquarie Galleries, Sydney
1990 Macquarie Galleries, Sydney
Tao Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
1989 Christine Abrahams Gallery, Melbourne
"Contemporary Australian Ceramics", Couturier Gallery, L.A., USA
Perth International Crafts Triennial, Art Gallery of Western Australia
1988 Stuart Devlin Award Exhibition, Meat Market Centre, Melbourne
Macquarie Galleries, Sydney
1986 First National Ceramic Award
1985 "Celebration", collaborative mural and sculpture with Robyn Gordon, Macquarie Galleries, Sydney
Burnie Art Gallery, Tasmanian Museum & Art Gallery
Queen Victoria Museum & Art Gallery, Hobart
"Just for the Show", Shepparton Art Gallery
"Clay & Fibre", Orange Regional Art Gallery
"The Patterned Edge", Crafts Council Centre Gallery, Sydney
1984 "Australian Crafts 1984", Meat Market Centre, Melbourne
"Image and Surface", Crafts Council Centre Gallery, Sydney
1983 "Australian Crafts 1983", Meat Market Centre, Melbourne
"Indulgences", Crafts Council Centre Gallery, Sydney
1982 "Australian Crafts 1982", Meat Market Centre, Melbourne
"Artists - Ceramics", Wollongong Art Gallery
1981 Mayfair Ceramic Award Exhibition
"New Directions in Australian Ceramics", Distelfink Gallery, Melbourne

AWARDS / COMMISSIONS

- 2017 Winner, Sidney Myer Fund Australian Ceramic Award, Shepparton Art Museum, Vic
Winner, University of Queensland's National Self Portrait Prize 2017, UQ Art Museum, Brisbane
2014 Winner, Korea-Australia Arts Foundation Prize (KAAFP)
2005 Sculptures for Methodist Ladies College, Sydney
2002 Acquisitive award - Schubert International Ceramic Award, Gold Coast, Qld
2001 6m tall sculpture for Joshua Berger, Paddington, Sydney
1990 Fish panels for Vatuale Resort, Fiji
1987 Eight ceramic murals for Sheraton International Hotel, Arlington, Virginia, USA
70ft long ceramic mural for Darling Harbour, Sydney

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- 2020 "Startling ceramic conversations with plants and nature", Kerry-Anne Cousins, *Canberra Times*, 24 August
2013 "Irregular shapes create a vibrant beauty", Kerry-Anne Cousins, *Canberra Times*, 9 March
Catalogue, 2nd Jakarta Ceramics Biennale, Indonesia
2010 "In the realm of the imagination", Kerry-Anne Cousins, *Canberra Times*, 20 February
2008 *Journal of Australian Ceramics*, Volume 47
2007 "Creatures repel and attract", Kerry-Anne Cousins, *Canberra Times*, 21 June, pg. 8
2006 Australian Art Review, iss. 11
500 Animals in Clay, Lark Books
2005 "Strange figures of deep mutation", Meredith Hinchliffe, *Canberra Times*, 1 March
2004 Australian Art Review, iss. 5
2003 *Ceramics: Art and Perception*, No. 52
2002 "Elemental beauty from the earth", Meredith Hinchliffe, *Canberra Times*, 3 October
2000 Rhein-Neckar-Zeitung, 20 November
"Wild with whimsy", Fran Kennely, *Canberra Times*, 2 July
1998 *Pottery in Australia*, No. 37/3, September
Exhibition review, Priscilla Henderson, *Muse*, March
A Collectors Guide to Contemporary Ceramics, Janet Mansfield. Craftsman Press
"Element of whimsy in creative ceramics", Myra McIntyre, *Canberra Times*, 20 February
1997 *Masters of Their Craft*, Norris Iannou, Craftsman House
Ceramics: Art and Perception, No. 30

- 1996 *Australian Art and Artists*, Sue Melville and Julie Rollinson, Science Press
1995 *Contemporary Ceramic Art in Australia and New Zealand*, Janet Mansfield, Craftsman House
1992 *Ceramics: Art and Perception*, No. 7
1990 Exhibition review, *Huntleys Australian Art Investor*, February
1989 *Pottery Decoration*, John Gibson, AC Black, London
Aspects of Art, L Tesorero & H Nilson, Science Press
1988 *A Collectors Guide to Modern Australian Ceramics*, Janet Mansfield, Craftsman House
New Art Two - New Directions in Contemporary Australian Art, Craftsman House
The Elton John Collection, Volume IV, Diverse Collection, Sothebys
Exhibition review, *Australian Financial Review*, 16 September
1987 *Spirit & Place - Artworks on Commonwealth Properties in Australia*, Pot Still Press
Exhibition review, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 28 April
1986 Exhibition review, *Sydney Morning Herald*, 3 December

REPRESENTED

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra; Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide; Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth; Museum & Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin; National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne; Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane; Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart; Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, Sydney; University of NSW; Queensland Institute of Technology; Darling Downs Institute, Qld; Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Launceston, Tas; Newcastle Region Art Gallery, NSW; Orange Regional Gallery, NSW; Shepparton Art Gallery, Vic; Gold Coast City Gallery, Qld; Bathurst Regional Gallery, NSW; Grafton Regional Gallery, NSW; Newcastle Regional Art Gallery, NSW; Campbelltown City Bicentennial Art Gallery, NSW; Coffs Harbour Regional Gallery, NSW; Shepparton Art Museum, Vic; Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric Authority, Cooma; Aichi Prefecture Design Centre, Japan; Museo Internazionale delle Ceramiche, Faenza, Italy